

SHOOTING FOR TEAMS

As kids, if we arrived at the basketball court while a pick-up game was already in progress,

we just yelled, "Our challenge," and we got to play the winners.

Or if the gym was just opening, we all lined up at the free-throw line and shot for teams,

the first five to make a shot against the next five.

We had similar procedures for arbitrating first outs and jump balls.

No matter how much bigger or tougher some kids might have been than others, I can't remember these conventions ever being violated.

Guys my age who still play ball instinctively abide by these rules.

I wonder if the kids today do? Civilization may depend on it.

-- Gerald Locklin

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